

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-35 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34 being the independent claims. Independent claims 1, 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34 were amended to more clearly represent the invention. Specifically, the independent claims were amended to show that the address space or memory is partitioned into address ranges such that the size of an address range corresponds to the distribution of program instructions for the corresponding ISA mode. Support for these amendments is found, for example, on page 33, lines 4-23, of the specification as originally filed. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The recent Office Action of May 20, 2004, states on page 1 that all pending claims 1-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,115,500 to Larsen *et al.* (hereinafter, "Larsen") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,802,119 to Heene *et al.* (hereinafter, "Heene").

The Office Action of May 20, 2004, refers to the previous Office Action, mailed November 14, 2003 (paper number 6) for its rejection discussion. In the previous Office Action, it was stated that Larsen teaches the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of "a plurality of boundary address registers for storing boundary addresses." (*See* Office Action of November 14, 2003, page 1, paragraph 5.) On page 2, the previous Office

Action stated that Heene "disclosed a system containing a plurality of boundary address registers for sensing and enabling an alternate operating mode upon use of an address within the range of one of the boundary address registers (fig. 4, col. 6 line 46 to col. 7 line 42)." (See Office Action of November 14, 2003, page 2, paragraph 5.) The previous Office Action goes on to state that "[i]t would have been obvious . . . to have combined Heene et al.'s plural boundary address register system with Larsen et al.'s system. . ." (See *id.*)

Applicants continue to disagree that there is motivation to combine the documents cited in the Office Actions. However, in the interest of expedited prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34 to more clearly represent the invention without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter of the claims as originally filed. For example, claim 1, as amended, includes (*emphasis added*):

a plurality of boundary address registers for storing boundary addresses that partition the address space into a plurality of address ranges corresponding to the plurality of ISA decoding modes, wherein *the size of an address range corresponds to the distribution of program instructions for the corresponding ISA decoding mode;*

Neither Larsen, nor Heene, nor any other previously cited document, alone or in combination, teaches the feature(s) of claim 1 as cited above. For at least this reason, claim 1, and the claims depending therefrom, are believed to be allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claim 1, and those of its dependent claims, and that these rejections be withdrawn.

Independent claims 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34 were amended similarly to claim 1. Thus, claims 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34, and the claims depending therefrom, are also believed to be allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the

rejection of claims 10, 18, 24, 30, and 34, and the claims depending therefrom, and that these rejections also be withdrawn.

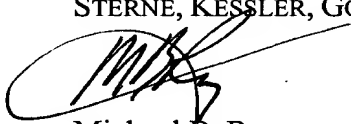
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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